

## REMARKS

In response to the above-noted Office Action, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 and 8 and rewritten Claims 2 and 5 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4, 11 and 14 have been amended to depend directly or indirectly upon independent claim 2. New claims, namely Claims 15, 16 and 17 have been added to depend upon independent claim 5 corresponding to claim 4, 11 and 14 respectively.

Claims 1, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Toide et al. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Toide et al. in view of Umera et al.

In response to the foregoing art rejections, Applicant has canceled the rejected claims and rewritten Claims 2 and 5 in independent form since, as noted by the Examiner, Claims 2 and 5, if rewritten in independent form, are allowable over the art of record. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 are indicated as being allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all outstanding requirements have been complied with and the claims pending for examination, namely claims 2, 4, 5, and 9-17 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 9/8/04

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail, With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Linda Marie D'Elia 9/8/04  
Linda Marie D'Elia September 8, 2004